Patent Claims

1.   System (5) for checking security features of a document of value (BN) with
        at least one sensor (9) in areas of different security categories,

        characterized in that

        in dependence on the security category different sensor parameters are
        provided for the respective checking of the security feature, so as to check
        the same security feature in different ways.

2.   System according to claim 1, characterized in that in areas of a lower
        security category the checking is based on a check of a property of the
        security feature and only in areas with a higher security category the same
        property of the security feature is checked with a higher accuracy and/or a
        different property is checked than in areas with a lower security category.

3.   System according to at least one of the above claims, characterized in that
        for checking with different sensor parameters differently designed sensors
        (9) with different measuring parameters are provided.

4.   System according to at least one of the above claims, characterized in that
        for checking with different sensor parameters sensors (9) of the same design
        with the same measuring parameters, but different evaluation parameters are
        provided.

5.   System according to at least one of the above claims, characterized in that
        the sensors (9) have a security device (11, 12), so as to check an
        authorization to use, by e.g. checking an information on the security
        category.

6.   System according to claim 5, characterized in that the security device (11,
        12) comprises an authorization by means of a solid-state storage medium,

such as a chip card, a biometric identification (11), a PIN entry and/or a spatial authorization, e.g. by means of a GPS system (12).

7.   System according to at least one of the above claims, characterized in that in dependence on the security category different sensor parameters are activated.

8.   System according to at least one of the above claims, characterized in that for checking the document of value both the checking of a higher and the checking of a low security category are carried out.

9.   System according to at least one of the above claims, characterized in that a forgery adaptation of the sensor parameters of the sensors (9) of a lower security category is carried out on the basis of the checking results of the sensors (9) of a higher security category.

10.   System according to claim 9, characterized in that measured data of not-accepted documents of value are stored in the sensors (9) of a higher security category and/or are used for the forgery adaptation.

11.   System according to at least one of the above claims, characterized in that a checking of luminescent substances as security feature is carried out.

12.   System according to claim 11, characterized in that in areas with a lower security category in comparison to areas with a higher security category the luminescence radiation is checked in a different way, such as e.g. with a different spectral resolution and/or in a different spectral region and/or in a different area of the surface of the document of value (BN).

13.   System according to claim 11 or 12, characterized in that in areas with a lower security category the envelope (16) of the spectral course of the security feature is checked and only in areas with a higher security category the spectral course (15) is checked with a higher spectral resolution, so as to determine substructures of the envelope (16).

14.   System according to at least one of the claims 11 to 13, characterized in that only when checking in areas with a higher security category a spectral separation is effected, i.e. determination of the individual substances (A, B) of a luminescent security feature consisting of several different substances, e.g. by determining substructures (15) of the envelope (16).

15.   System according to at least one of the claims 11 to 14, characterized in that in areas with different security categories the decay behaviour of the luminescence radiation is determined in different ways.

16.   System according to at least one of the above claims, characterized in that the documents of value (BN) have the security feature in the form of a coding, so as to be able to differentiate between different documents of value, such as e.g. different nominal values and/or series of a currency system, and the sensors of a lower security category are adapted to only check the existence or non-existence of a known coding, whereas only the sensors of a higher security category are adapted to check the special kind of coding.

17.   System according to at least one of the above claims, characterized in that in the same sensor (9) for checking the document of value both the checking of a higher and the checking of a lower security category are carried out.

18.   System according to at least one of the above claims, characterized in that in a cash machine the acceptability of documents of value (BN) is effected only on the basis of the checking of a lower security category.

19.   System according to at least one of the above claims, characterized in that measured data of a sensor (9) for checking security features of the document of value (BN) are used for forgery adaptation and/or measured data of the sensor (9) are transmitted to an external facility, such as e.g. a central computer connected to several sensors (9) via data lines.